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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/587,088

07/21/2006

Shu Kobayashi

TIP 048

9535

23408

7590

10/05/2009

GARY C. COHN, PLLC

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EXAMINER

MABRY, JOHN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1625

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/05/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

garycohn@seattlepatent.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/587,088	Applicant(s) KOBAYASHI ET AL.	
	Examiner JOHN MABRY	Art Unit 1625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 May 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5/27/09</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

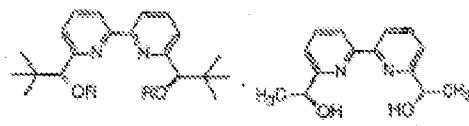
DETAILED ACTION

Examiner's Response

Applicant's response on May 27, 2009 filed in response to the Election/Restriction dated February 27, 2009 has been received and duly noted. The Examiner acknowledges Applicants' election of Group III with traverse.

The Applicant argues that the technically linking feature that Examiner provided in restriction requirement (Denmark et al JACS 2002, 124, 4233-4235) describes N-oxides of claimed compounds of formula 1. Applicant also argues that claim 3 is drawn to a catalyst that is prepared from the chemical formula 1 material and a Lewis acid represented by MYn – a catalyst, not simply a compound of formula 1.

However, Bolm et al (Chem. Ber. 1992, 125, 1169-1190) (PTO-1449) describes a bipyridine compound as claimed by instant application which is used as a catalyst for chiral reduction (see bottom of page 1171, right column and right column of page 1172). Additionally, under US patent prosecution practice; claim 3 is considered a compound claim. Regardless of how the compounds are made, which could be through a different process than described in claim 3, it is still a compound claim and has been treated as so.



In view of this response, the status of the rejections/objections of record is as follows:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for R5 being H, R6 being unsubstituted phenyl, R5 and R6 together forming a ring which equals indene, 1,2-dihydronaphthylene, cyclohexene, cycloheptene, cyclopentene; R7 being methyl, ethyl, H, unsubstituted phenyl, benzyl and OSTB; and R8 being methyl of formula 2 and R3 and R4 being H and alkoxy and X1 and X2 being OH, and R2 being t-butyl of formula 1 does not reasonably provide enablement for R5 and R7 being monocyclic or polycyclic alicyclic hydrocarbon groups, monocyclic or polycyclic hydrocarbon groups or heterocyclic groups; R5 and R6 together forming any "ring", R8 being alkoxy groups of formula 2 and X1 and X2 being –SR9 or NHR11 of formula 1.

Pursuant to *In re Wands*, 858 F.2d 731, 737, 8 USPQ2d 1400, 1404 (Fed. Cir. 1988), one considers the following factors to determine whether undue experimentation is required: (A) The breadth of the claims; (B) The nature of the invention; (C) The state of the prior art; (D) The level of one of ordinary skill; (E) The level of predictability in the art; (F) The amount of direction provided by the inventor; (G) The existence of working

Art Unit: 1625

examples; and (H) The quantity of experimentation needed to make or use the invention based on the content of the disclosure. Some experimentation is not fatal; the issue is whether the amount of experimentation is “undue”; see *In re Vaeck*, 20 USPQ2d 1438, 1444.

The analysis is as follows:

(1) Breadth of claims: Scope of the compounds and a method of producing optically active compounds.

(2) The nature of the invention: The invention is a highly substituted silicon enolate compounds of formula 2, bipyridyl compounds of formula 1 and hydroxymethylated compounds being produced.

(3) Level of predictability in the art: It is well established that “the scope of enablement varies inversely with the degree of unpredictability of the factors involved,” and chemical reactivity (which is affected by determinants such as substituent effects, steric effects, bonding, molecular geometry, etc) is generally considered to be an unpredictable factor. See *In re Fisher*, 427 F.2d 833, 839, 166 USPQ 18, 24 (CCPA 1970).

(4) Direction or Guidance: That provided is very limited. Applicant shows a general synthesis of compounds of application's general formula I. Pages 4-9 of the Specification describes starting materials and methods for synthesis of compounds

Art Unit: 1625

wherein R1-R8 and X1 and X2 as described above, but does not describe or list any reagents wherein compounds can be used to synthesis compounds where R5 and R7 being monocyclic or polycyclic alicyclic hydrocarbon groups, monocyclic or polycyclic hydrocarbon groups or heterocyclic groups; R5 and R6 together forming any "ring", R8 being alkoxy groups of formula 2 and X1 and X2 being –SR9 or NHR11 of formula 1.

There is limited evidence in the Specification of the example compounds that only covers no or a small portion of the substituents claimed of formula. Thus, there is no specific direction or guidance regarding said compounds specifically mentioned in Scope.

The availability of the starting material that is needed to prepare the invention as claimed is at issue here...As per MPEP 2164.01 (b). A key issue that can arise when determining whether the specification is enabling is whether the starting materials or apparatus necessary to a make the invention are available. In the biotechnical area, this is often true when the product or process requires a particular strain of microorganism and when the microorganism is available only after extensive screening. The Court *in re Ghiron*, 442 F.2d 985, 991, 169 USPQ 723, 727 (CCPA 1971), made it clear that if the practice of a method requires a particular apparatus, the application must provide a sufficient disclosure of the apparatus if the apparatus is not readily available. The same can be said if certain chemicals are required to make a compound or practice a chemical process. *In re Howarth*, 654 F.2d 103, 105, 210 USPQ 689, 691 (CCPA 1981).

It is not trivial to experimentally interchange any and all of the many substituents that exist. As described by F. Zaragoza Dörwald, most organic syntheses fail initially and chemical research is highly inefficient due to chemists spending most of their time "finding out what went wrong and why". Therefore, most syntheses of organic compounds are labor-intensive and demanding. Additionally, most final synthetic routes to desired organic molecules are usually very different from initially planned routes. A highly skilled chemist can agree that for many successful organic compounds made, many failures are encountered and experimental repetition is common. This also contributes to the burden and unpredictability of the syntheses of said compounds. (see "Side Reactions in Organic Synthesis: A Guide to Successful Synthesis Design" 2005 Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KGaA, Weinheim.

(6) Working Examples: Applicant shows examples 1-14 (chart on page 9) but no working examples were shown wherein R1- R8 and X1 and X2 equal aforementioned substituents have been made or used of any kind.

(7) Skill of those in the art: The ordinary artisan is highly skilled, e.g. a masters or PhD level chemist.

(8) The quantity of experimentation needed: Since there are very limited working examples as described above, the amount of experimentation is expected to be high

Art Unit: 1625

and burdensome.

Due to the level of unpredictability in the art, the very limited guidance provide, and the lack of working examples, the Applicant has not provided sufficient guidance for the artisan to make the invention.

MPEP 2164.01(a) states, "A conclusion of lack of enablement means that, based on the evidence regarding each of the above factors, the specification, at the time the application was filed, would not have taught one skilled in the art how to make and/or use the full scope of the claimed invention without undue experimentation. *In re Wright*, 999 F.2d 1557,1562, 27 USPQ2d 1510, 1513 (Fed. Cir. 1993)." That conclusion is clearly justified here.

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. There is no evidence/written description in the specification for Formulae 1 and 2 for the terms "monocyclic or polycyclic alicyclic hydrocarbon groups, monocyclic or polycyclic hydrocarbon groups or heterocyclic groups". Additionally, there are no examples or reduction to practice of said groups.

According to the MPEP §2163 I. A. "the issue of a lack of adequate written description may arise even for an original claim when an aspect of the claimed invention has been described with sufficient particularity such that one skilled in the art would

Art Unit: 1625

recognize that the applicant had possession of the claimed invention. The claimed invention as a whole may not be adequately described if the claims require an essential or critical feature which is not adequately described in the specification and which is not conventional in the art or known to one of ordinary skill in the art.” The MPEP states in §2163 II 3 ii) “The written description requirement for a claimed genus may be satisfied through sufficient description of a representative number of species by actual reduction to practice (see I) (A), above), reduction to drawings (see I)(B), above), or by disclosure of relevant, identifying characteristics coupled with a known or disclosed correlation between function and structure, or by a combination of such identifying characteristics, sufficient to show the applicant was in possession of the claimed genus (see I)(C), above). See *Eli Lilly*, 119 F.3d at 1568, 43, USPQ2d at 1406.”

As discussed above the phrase “monocyclic or polycyclic alicyclic hydrocarbon groups, monocyclic or polycyclic hydrocarbon groups or heterocyclic groups” are not art recognized in the specification. According to the MPEP §2163.02 Standard for Determining Compliance With the Written Description Requirement,

“The courts have described the essential question to be addressed in a description requirement issue in a variety of ways. An objective standard for determining compliance with the written description requirement is, “does the description clearly allow persons of ordinary skill in the art to recognize that he or she invented what is claimed”. *In re Gosteli*, 872, F.2d 1008 1012, 10 USPQ2d 1614, 1618 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Under *Vas-Cath, Inc. v. Mahurkar*, 935 F.2d 1555, 1563-64, 19 USPQ2d 111, 1117 (Fed. Cir. 1991), to satisfy the written description requirement, an applicant must convey with reasonable clarity to those skilled in the art that, as of filing date sought, he or she was in possession of the invention, and that the invention, in that context, is whatever is now claimed. The test for sufficiency of support in a parent application is whether the disclosure of the application relied upon “reasonably conveys to the artisan that the inventor had possession at that time of the later claimed subject matter”. *Ralston Purina Co. v. Far-Mar-Co., Inc.*, 772 F.2d 1570, 1575, 227 USPQ 177, 179 (Fed. Cir. 1985) (quoting *In re Kaslow*, 707 F.2d 1366, 1375 217 USPQ 1089, 1096 (Fed. Cir. 1983)).”

Art Unit: 1625

The methodology for determining adequacy of written description to convey that Applicant was in possession of the claimed invention includes determining whether the application describes an actual reduction to practice, determining whether the invention is complete as evidenced by drawings or determining whether the invention has been set forth in terms of distinguishing identifying characteristics as evidenced by other descriptions of the invention that are sufficiently detailed to show that applicant was in possession of the claimed invention (Guidelines for Examination of Patent Applications under 35 USC § 112, p 1 "Written Description" Requirement; (Federal Register/Vol 66. No. 4, Friday, January 5, 2001;11 Methodology for Determining Adequacy of Written Description (3.)).

Conclusion

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Mabry, PhD whose telephone number is (571) 270-1967. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 9am to 5pm.

Art Unit: 1625

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's primary examiner can be reached at (571) 272-0684, first, or the Examiner's supervisor, Janet Andres, PhD, can be reached at (571) 272-0867. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

/John Mabry/
Examiner
Art Unit 1625

/Rita J. Desai/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1625